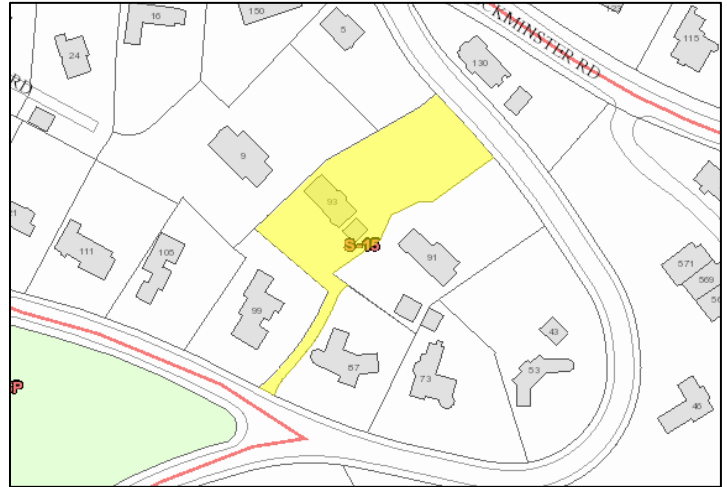


Brookline Preservation Commission

Demolition Application Report

Address: 93 Seaver Street
Applicant: 93 View Point LLC
Building Type: House (Full)
National Register Listing (if Applicable): Fisher Hill NR District



Historical/Architectural Significance:

The Arts & Crafts style house at 93 Seaver Street was built in 1912, designed by architectural firm Kilham & Hopkins. The 2 story stucco house rises from a stone foundation to a hipped roof, its fenestration arranged asymmetrically along its long rectangular form. An arched copper hood covers the off-center front entrance, its form echoed in a mid-story arched window to the right. No two openings on the façade are the same; a bay window at the right of the first floor is balanced by a French door with a balcony at the second floor left. Small trellises frame the entry to the house and garage and are interspersed with the windows on the first floor.

Walter Kilham (1868-1948), James Hopkins (1873-1938) both studied architecture MIT. Kilham, a Beverly native, received his degree in 1889. He was awarded the Rotch Traveling Scholarship, spending two years traveling in Europe and studying in Paris. He was an original member of the Brookline Planning Board, established in 1914, and served through 1920. Hopkins was born in Jamaica Plain (Boston) and earned his degree in 1895-1896. Early in their careers, both architects worked for the Boston firm of Winslow & Wetherell. In 1901, three years after Kilham established his own firm, he invited Hopkins to join him in a partnership. Kilham & Hopkins designed a number of institutional buildings, private homes, and public buildings in Boston and throughout Massachusetts. One of these homes is located next door at 91 Seaver Street, built in the same year for Mrs. John M. Longyear.

The home at 93 Seaver Street was built for Mrs. Lillian Dickey and her husband Adam Dickey. The Dickeys resided in the Hotel Beaconsfield before moving to then #17 Seaver in 1913. Adam Dickey served on the board of directors of the Christian Science Mother Church, the First Church of Christian Science, Boston and was a trustee under the will of church founder Mary Baker Eddy. The Dickeys were no doubt attracted to the site by neighbors John and Mary Longyear, fellow

devotees of the Christian Science Church who had relocated with their house to the neighborhood in 1902. Their neighbor Archibald McLellan at 91 Seaver, tenant of the Longyears, was also a member of the Church and editor of the Christian Science Monitor.

The residential neighborhood of Fisher Hill was laid out in “1884 by Frederick Law Olmstead, and is considered ‘a masterpiece of curvilinear planning’”. It was not until the 1880’s that the area saw development. The neighborhood was made up of successful Boston businessmen, including lawyers, doctors, and bankers. In 1914 a neighborhood covenant was drawn up, guiding the type of homes that could be built in the area. This agreement was signed by 165 property owners and was in effect through 1940. It was expected that new owners would build their homes to conform to the “affluent character of the neighborhood.”

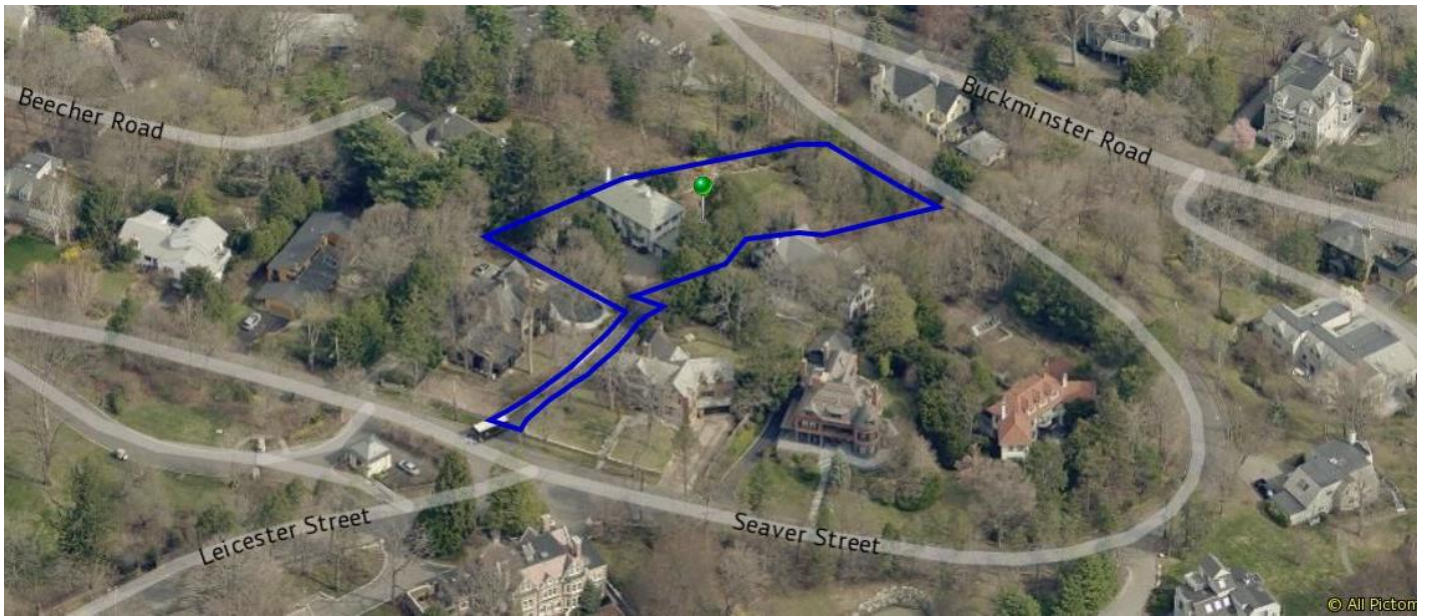
The house at 93 Seaver Street meets the following criteria for an initial determination of significance:

- b. The building is listed on or is within an area listed on the National or State Registers of Historic Places; is eligible for listing on the National or State Registers of historic places; or is a building for which a preliminary determination of eligibility has been made by the Massachusetts Historical Commission;
- c. The building is associated with one or more significant historic persons or events, or with the broad architectural, cultural, political, economic, or social history of the town or Commonwealth; and
- d. The building is historically or architecturally significant in terms of its period, style, method of construction, or its association with a significant architect or builder, either by itself or as part of a group of buildings.

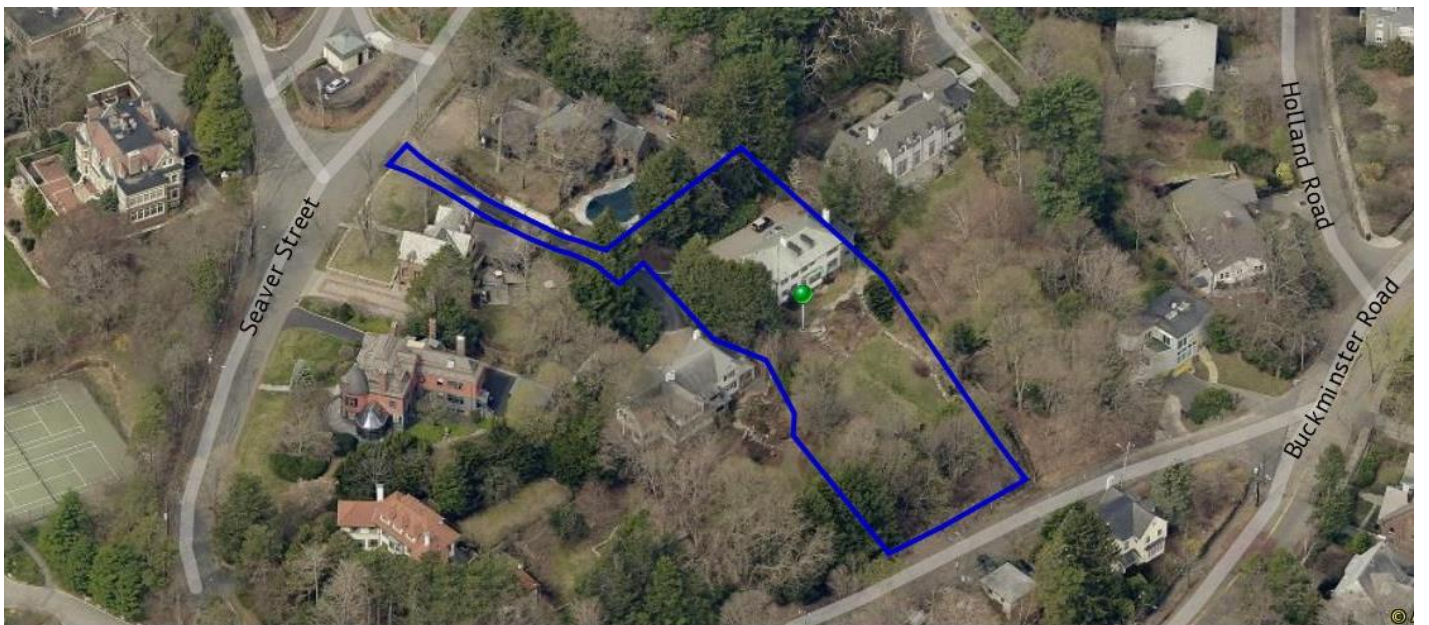
The building at 93 Seaver Street retains integrity of location, design, setting, feeling, materials, and workmanship.



Aerial view of 93 Seaver Street, looking east.



Aerial view of 93 Seaver Street, looking north.



Aerial view of 93 Seaver Street, looking west.



Aerial view of 93 Seaver Street, looking south.





Sunporch (top) and garage (bottom)



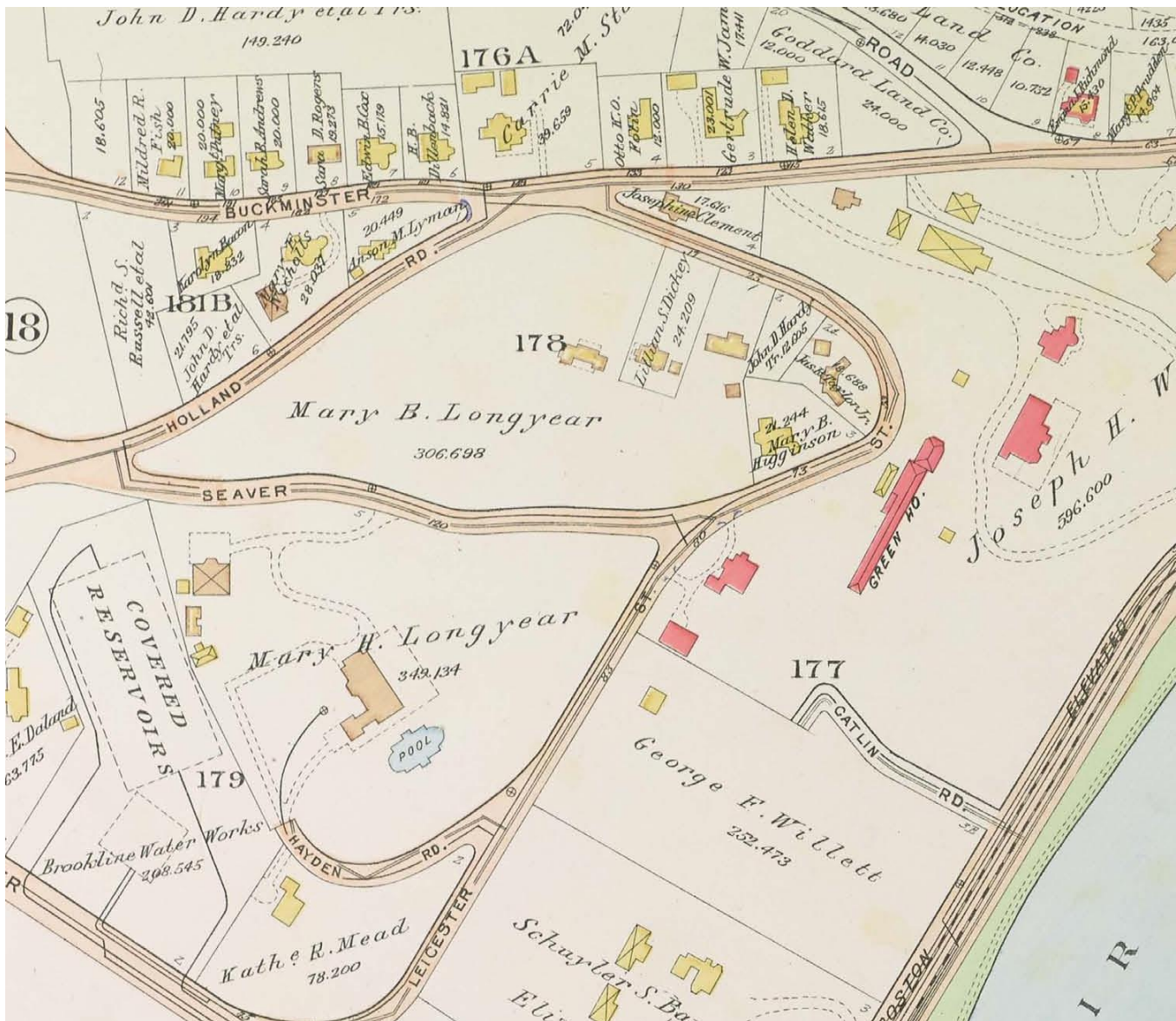


Rear elevation



Views of home from Seaver Street





1913 Town of Brookline Atlas, showing 93 Seaver owned by Lillian S. Dickey